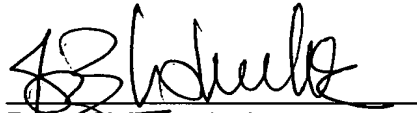


**REMARKS**

Please cancel Claims 9-24. Claims 1-8, and 25-58 are now pending in the application.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (314) 726-7505.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan K. Wheelock", written over a horizontal line.

Bryan K. Wheelock  
Reg. No. 31,441  
Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.  
7700 Bonhomme, Suite 400  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105  
(314) 726-7500